

## Commodore's Log



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Good afternoon,

Don't blink, really, don't blink—the sailing season, for most of us river sailors, is more than half over! I for one have not had enough sailing this season and am making plans to extend my season through the Winter months - in the Islands. I've taken the classes, practiced at Wednesday night races, chartered on the Chesapeake Bay, and now am ready to take that leap. This will be the Winter when I send you Facebook updates and e-mails from the Caribbean. Is that your goal too? To become a better sailor; so you can explore and see a little more than our lagoon?

How do you prepare for that trip of a lifetime? Start by talking to SCOW Skippers that have already had their time in the Islands—there are many at SCOW that have experienced the journey. Do you need some additional skills? Take a SCOW Cruiser Class to get the feel of a tiller on a larger boat, that is capable of sailing the Bay and maybe beyond. That's where it all starts—take the next step and join the SCOW members that have enjoyed their journey.

On another note, I'm really pleased to see so many new and old friends volunteering to make our Club run. From Fleet Day maintenance to Social Sails and the duties of our Board of Directors, we've hit our top hull speed and the Club is running well. I think that it's also wonderful to see those special volunteers that return every year to help SCOW be at tip-top performance. Look at page 5 of this ChaNNels to see some of our great multi-year volunteers that keep us running and moving forward. I'm honored to work with these Board Appointees. And I would be remiss if I didn't thank our amazing trainers—like Mike Hooban, Jim Metcalf, Neil Shepherd, Joe Leoncio, Bill Gillespie, Lynn Durbin, Ken Giberson, Baris Ornarli, Dan Sandhaus, John Rogers, Rhonda Glassman, Jay Weitzel, John Kauffman, Vince Penoso and Becky Cole. They all provide a great service to the Club. Please give them a high five the next time you see them!

See you on the water -

**Richard**

Sailing Club of Washington  
(SCOW.ORG)  
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Alexandria, VA 22313

SCOW is a 501(c)(7) organization that was originally chartered July 12, 1966 "to provide the membership thereof with the opportunity and instrumentalities to become expert in the art of sailing for their individual and mutual education, benefit and enjoyment."



## Racing Corner Dave Beckett | Racing Director



# SCOW Racing Program

## Wednesday Night Races (WNR)

WNR is going stronger than ever. We've had our share of cancellations, but we've raced on the river more this year than the three previous years of Wednesdays combined. We're averaging between 8-10 Scots and had a record high 12 Scots one night in July with almost fifty members competing. Now is a good time for new members and prospective racers to get out on the water with racing skippers and develop those relationships that lead to well performing teams and friendships for the upcoming fall season. Skippers invariably will be seeking crew right up to the last minute before races so, get out there and meet them at WNR.

### Fall Racing Schedule

- Leukemia Cup Regatta 7 Sep
- Presidents Cup Regatta 14-15 Sep
- Directors Cup Regatta 6 Oct

### Flag of the Month



The "First Substitute" pennant is used by the Race Committee to signal a general recall of the fleet immediately after the start of a race.

### Racing Rules Corner

#### 29.2 General Recall

When at the starting signal the race committee is unable to identify boats that are on the course side of the starting line, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the race committee may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with two sounds). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound).

### Racing Rules Corner Bonus

#### 11 ON THE SAME TACK, OVERLAPPED

When boats are on the same *tack* and *overlapped*, a *windward* boat shall *keep clear* of a *leeward* boat. That means you, windward boat! All the time and in all cases; upwind, downwind (even when the other guy came from clear astern and RRS 17 applies), before and after the start (even if it means you'll be pushed over the line early). The starting line affords you no refuge.



# Kayaking at Mallows Bay – Jay Weitzel

In late June, I took a kayak tour of Mallows Bay, home of the “Ghost Fleet.” Mallows Bay is located on the Maryland side of the Potomac River, across from Quantico Marine Base. The trip was sponsored by the Chesapeake Conservancy, and conducted by REI. I brought my own kayak but REI provided kayaks, PFDs, paddles and guides.

Mallows Bay is the final resting place for over 200 vessels, dating from the Revolutionary War to the 20<sup>th</sup> century – the largest collection of wrecks in the Western Hemisphere. Nearly 100 are from World War I, when the Government needed transport ships. Because steel was needed for the war, the Government contracted to have 1000 steamships, each 300’ long, made of wood. To make a fascinating story short, the ships were built in a rush, the program fell behind schedule, and the ships that did get finished were poorly constructed. Then, the war ended and they weren’t needed, so they were sold to a company that moved them to Mallows Bay, planning to salvage them for scrap. The plan was not economically feasible and, when the Depression came, the company went bankrupt. So, they sat there for years, decaying.



#1



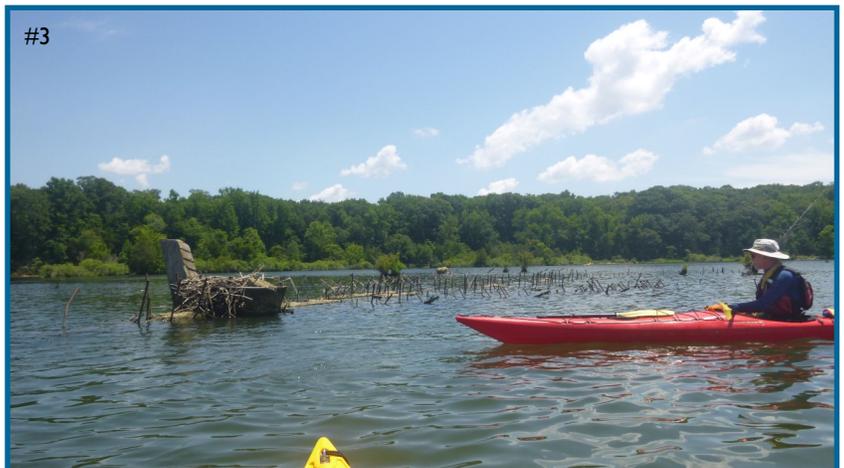
#2

But, the decaying vessels eventually became an ecosystem supporting marine life and waterfowl. In fact, during our kayak tour, we saw three bald eagles and numerous other waterfowl. There are also artifacts reflecting at least 12,000 years of history, including Native American communities, the Potomac River fishing industry and the Civil War. On July 8, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced that Mallows Bay has been designated as a National Marine Sanctuary.

The vessels have largely been burned to the waterline, so the best time to kayak or canoe is at low tide. You need to be careful because the ribs and metal bolts lurk just below the surface. The Chesapeake Conservancy has put together “A Paddler’s Guide to Mallows Bay,” that identifies the wrecks and recommends a route to view them.

### The three pictures attached are:

1. Remains of the ferry Accomak, the only steel vessel in Mallows Bay
2. The sternpost of a vessel, where the rudder would have attached. The steel rods in the water show the outline of the ship.
3. At low tide, the remains of the ships lurk just below the surface



#3



## Membership Corner

Barry Yatt | Membership Director



The rush of membership renewal is well over now, but the work of membership engagement, support, and outreach to new members goes on. And work continues making our website and electronic forms easier to use. This first season of online renewals presented its share of challenges. But we have mostly gotten through them. Blank paper copies of the Membership Agreements are stocked in the Social Sail binder for on-the-spot sign ups. And I am doing my best to help prospective renewals and new members work through our system.

By my calculations, as of July 28 we had 411 adult members. That includes 276 renewals (213 paid individuals and household administrators plus 63 household members) and another 135 first-time adult members (112 paid individuals and household administrators plus 23 household members). And these members have brought in 4 renewal minors and 8 first-time minors.

If you're among the 16 renewals or the 29 aspiring new members who have not yet completed the process, please email me and let's work together to get you on board. And if you moved away or needed to drop your membership for some other reason, please let me know and I'll clean up our records.

Please help me welcome the following people who have joined SCOW since October 1 (the official end of last season):

Jayanth Arawa	Melinda Dullea	JP Leous	Callie Pokorski	Kevin Stefanik
Brian Awig	Stacey English	George Lewis	Robert Radu	Rachelle Stefanik
Greg Bauserman	Kari Fiore-Walker	Connie Li	Sharon Reed (Abboud)	John Strange
Kerem Bilge	Erin Fox	Ahmen "Ed" Malik	Mary-Kaitlin Rigney	Colleen Sweeney
Douglas Blackburn	Michael French	Arun Mallikarjunan	John Roginski	Benjamin Tecmire
Robert Blackwell	Amber Gallaty	Josef Martens	Leona Roszkowski	Brian Terhaar
Margaret Borowczyk	Gregory Graf	Johnny Martin	Drew Royal	Milt Thompson
John Bowman	Jean Grandmaire	Charles Marxen	Ian Sanderson	Chloe Thornhill
Maria Bravo	Robert Gregorits	Chris Mawdsley	Horacio Sapriza	John Thornhill
Jennifer Brooks	Jason Gritton	Kathy McCormick	Amanda Saulka	Edwin Vargas
Sean Brooks	Christopher Haave	Daniel McEnrue	Michael Scardaville	Jake Wadsley
Jennifer Burnside	Joshua Higginson	Michelle McGinley	David Scheuermann	Katherine Wadsley
Holly Busby	Dan Hinton	Chris Meaden	Eric Schmidt	Hunter Wagner
Shawn Busby	Alex Blake Holleman	Megan Meehan	Dana Schuster	Christine Ward
Lauren Carl	Bob Hollendonner	Kate Michaels	James Schuster	Michelle Watters
Carloesar Castaneda	Darren Holmblad	Spencer Mill	Karen Seidman	Christopher Weaver
Jennifer Charlton	Eleni Houghton	David Monti	Sara Sepanski	Sally Weaver
"Emily" Kaiwai Chiu	Melih Ileri	Lelia Mooney	Allison Shapira	Charles "Tom" Willett
Sean Clarke	Randall Jayne	Phillip Moxley	Trueman Sharp	Richard Williams
Antonia Cole	Larysa Kautz	William Nalls	Barbara Shoemaker	Matthew Witmer
CJ Collins	Ryan Kautz	Axelle Nassirou	Matthew Smith	Matt Wuerker
Emily Collins	Christopher Kelly	Sagar Nekkalapudi	Alston Smyth	Victoria Zenner
Katherine Coplen	Jerry Kidwell	Beatrice Newbury	Edward Snyder	
Daniel Cotlear	Jeff Koldoff	Michael O'Brien	Arturo Soriano	
Alexis Dickerson	Murali Kulathungam	Robert Ochs	Dante Soriano	
Romano Dickerson	Richard Lane	Christopher Opie	Geraldine Soriano	
William Bradley Docos	Mark Lauricella	Louis Pecora	Leonardo Soriano	
Elizabeth Drake	Robert Leary	Haben Petros		
DeWayne Duff	Jerry Lee	Larry Pfeifle		

(cont. on next page)



Membership Corner (Cont.)

Some people who probably should be on this list aren't. In some cases, the household administrator didn't create profiles for their household members. If that's you, please do, so I can extend membership to them. I haven't listed children under age 18, since membership is limited by the bylaws to those over the age of 18. Children in households who are under 18 are welcome to participate in any SCOW activities with those in their household who are over 18, but not as members. We are looking to clarify the membership agreement to reflect this policy, and I expect to have more to say in an upcoming Membership Corner.

Finally, a big thanks to Genevieve Lindsay who agreed last month to take on the vital task of Meet Up coordinator from past Commodore Joe Leoncio.

So, enjoy the warm weather, both on and off the water, and come up and introduce yourself to me at a social sail.

Yours in sailing,

**Barry Yatt**



**Hail & Farewell** is SCOW's annual blow-out party to thank all of our great volunteers for another super sailing season. Mark your calendar for the evening of November 16th. Music, food and your best sailing buddies.

Look for more information coming soon here in ChaNNels.

### 2019 Board Appointees

Training & Skipper Cert. Committee Chair	John Rogers	TSCC@scow.org
Boat Assets Committee Chair	John Kauffman	BAC@scow.org
Investments Committee Chair	Vacant	Investment@scow.org
Audit Committee Co-Chairs	Luis Rivas & John Kauffman	Audit@scow.org
ChaNNels Editor	Vacant	Editor@scow.org
Email Administrator	Jeff Teitel	Postmaster@scow.org
SmugMug Photo Administrator	George Clark	Pictures@gmail.com
Web Editor	Luis Rivas	Webmaster@scow.org
Meetup / Facebook Coordinator	Genevieve Lindsay	Meetupcoord@scow.org



# Raft-Up and Destination Sail Season in Full Swing

Carlie Smith | River and Bay Activities Director



Hiatus and Lion's Paw rafted-up for our May Full Moon Raft-Up

If you have been lucky enough to join us for a Raft-Up this season, you know the feeling of camaraderie that comes from sharing a meal and a sunset with a new group of friends. While our normal 3-vessel fleet has been down to two boats with Hiatus being out of service, we still manage to fill our available spots each month with eager crew.



Spectacular fireworks at Nationals Park

Raft-Ups are an important SCOW tradition because they give a formal way for new members to get out on the water no matter what their level of experience. Each of our crews on our May and June Raft-Ups were diverse in experience level.

In June, we were lucky enough to schedule our Raft-Up in time to catch celebratory fireworks at Nationals Park. If you've never seen fireworks from a boat before, they are a sight to behold.

And new this year we've added special destination sails to our River & Bay program that give crews a chance to venture to a new port on the Potomac for special events. In June nearly 20 SCOW members on 4 Flying Scots and sailed from Washington Sailing Marina to Old Town Alexandria for the Portside in Alexandria Summer Festival. It

was a beautiful breeze that easy sail, sense the of festival watched our wanted to too could



SCOW fleet docked in Old Town Alexandria

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and pal-on-

be-



Cheers to a great sail!

with a lovely made for an you could pable jealousy lookers who docking and know how they come sailors.



## Jerry's Solo Delmarva Circumnavigation - By SCOW Member Jerry Lee

By many sailors, the Delmarva Peninsula Circumnavigation is seen as a stepping stone to something bigger. I am no exception. I wanted to do a really long trip, and get offshore experience before further dreaming about a trip to the Bahamas. And I wanted to do it alone, since past experiences have shown me that it was the best way to learn. I spent about two months preparing my Bristol 30, the *Sonora Del Viento*, getting ready for this trip.

Most cruisers seem to want to get away from civilization, but I am different. I love stopping at cities. Each city has a personality that is a backdrop to everyone you meet there. Also, I love salsa dancing, and seeing how people dance in different cities is great fun. The two city stops I made were in Baltimore and Norfolk. Both places have tons of museums, good food, and a bar scene that I think surpasses Washington D.C.

The Chesapeake & Delaware Canal, known as the C&D Canal, cuts through the northernmost part of the peninsula and makes the circumnavigation possible. I did it at night, just so I can see the fabled lights of the canal. As you approach the channel, the seemingly random navigation lights slowly become regular, until it becomes an eerie, straight outline of the canal. One memorable moment was when a behemoth of a freighter passed me. With perhaps only sixty meters between *Sonora* and it, the ship seemed to pass me for eternity. It was majestic and terrifying at the same time.



Cape May is stunning. I enjoyed watching the sunset from my boat to the soundtrack of the taps bugle call from the USCG recruiting station. I made a few trips to the beach too, to get coffee and use their wi-fi to do work. My mind still drifts off to the four days I spent there, and it is painted in the gold, blue and gray, the colors that the sun uses to paint Cape May every evening.

Offshore sailing was everything I hoped for and more. The water looks just like the seas you see on those YouTube videos. The sea looks to be



draped by a blanket of silk that is in powerful, endless motion. And unlike the waves in the Ole' Bay, these waves roll under your keel in a much more gentle motion. Losing sight of land is a terrifying moment for some, but for me it was calming. I felt much more at one with the environment around me. The sounds and sights of the endless ocean did not cease to be pleasant. Interestingly, stargazing in the ocean is different from what any mountaintop has to offer. Each speck of light was more intense, as if they were watching you, each gaze ranging in intent from protective, to pensive.



Baltimore's Inner Harbor

On this trip, I sailed on all points of the wind. I even used my pole for wing-on-wing direct downwind sailing. I suffered a partial knockdown and dodged many threatening thunderstorms. I could go on about the sailing and seamanship aspect of my trip, but that would be too long. Instead, just remember that there are things that are sometimes uniquely important on longer voyages – mentality, fatigue, hydration, storm tactics, weather, and sailing conservatively. Do reading on these subjects beforehand. Don't forget doing research on your routes and destination, back-up anchorages, and spend plenty of time looking at tide and currents along your route.

I highly recommend any learning sailors to do this trip, either on their own boat or as crew. I returned a much more capable sailor, with more confidence and humility simultaneously. I'll be spending the upcoming months preparing myself and the boat for a much longer trip! See you all on the water.

You can read more about my trip on my blog, *Dancing with Sonora* ([svsonora.wordpress.com](http://svsonora.wordpress.com)).

**Jerry Lee**



# Social Sail & Hail and Farewell

*Marie Brennan | Social Activities Director*



Summer is already half over, which means so are Social Sails! Despite the storms, Thursdays have been a great way to socialize with new and old members, and get out on our Scots. There are still lots of days left to help out as a Dock Master or Assistant Dock Master, or a Chef - see link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4cacia28a0fb6-social>

Save the date for our **Hail & Farewell** held at the Old Town Embassy Suites, Saturday November 16th! This is a fun, formal event to celebrate the year, the outgoing and incoming Board members, and to thank our volunteers! Keep an eye out for more information on tickets in the next month or so.



Jonathan Thron and crew prepping for a little heavy weather



Social sailors, being social

## Last Call for Cruiser Training!

With just one more class in 2019 and only a couple of seats left, you'll have to move fast. The last Cruiser class starts on September 18th. Register at <https://www.scow.org/learn>. We know it's on your bucket list - do it now!



# Skippers' Corner

*Chip Lubsen | Skipper Certification Director*



## New SCOW Skipper

Congratulations To: Brian Terhaar – Flying Scot Skipper And thank you to Tutor Richard Lawrence and Checkout Skipper Mike Hooban for helping to make this possible.



SCOW's newest Scot Skipper, Brian Terhaar, hiking out on a Star

## Safety, Safety, Safety

Good work SCOW skippers - you have done an excellent job this season keeping crew and vessels safe and sound. Though we had 6 early season incidents (3 collisions, two groundings and a crew overboard while docking), June and July (knock on a wooden mast) have been incident free. That is an excellent trend. Flying Scot skippers please get out those safety briefing cards (from the red bag) pre-departure and do a quick safety brief with your crew. Cruiser skippers, we are working on a similar safety briefing card for you so rely on your training and experience, while doing your safety briefings. At or near the top of the list of any pre-departure safety briefing is the concept that "all are lookouts" – that crew members should speak up loudly and clearly if any threat to the vessel is discerned.

As skippers, we all need to be good at skills self-assessment. We have a fairly wide array of experience and need to never overestimate our skill set relative to the conditions at hand. Conservative self-assessment and good situational awareness (including awareness of summer thunderstorms of both the predictable and pop-up variety) will help us to drive down SCOW incident counts to as close to zero as possible. Thanks for your diligence on this topic. Again – job well done!



### Skipper Prospects Update

The SCOW Skipper Prospect List currently names 41 Flying Scot and 11 Cruiser candidates. Seventeen candidates have requested tutoring on their way to a water checkout and ten are in various stages of working on the written test. For that written test, be sure to follow the instructions on the web site carefully so that we can take full advantage of the automated form. Please let me know how I can help if you feel stuck. Contact me at [skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org). If you and I have not already communicated and you are planning to pursue certification in 2019, please send me an email so I can confirm you are on, or add you to, the list. I look forward to helping you achieve your goal of becoming a SCOW certified skipper! Please write to [skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org) and title your email **Skipper Prospect**.

### Consider Becoming a SCOW Trainer or Tutor

If you have three years of experience and demonstrated competence on the types of boats SCOW uses, you may qualify to be a trainer. With less experience, you may still qualify to help aspiring skippers as a tutor. See the SCOW Training Policy on the website for more details.

### Please refer your friends to our SCOW Training Program – Expand Their Horizons

Take Good Care

Chip

## SCOW Events – August 2019

Date	Event
Sat. 3 August	8:00 am Cruiser Fleet Day
Mon. 5 August	7:00 pm SCOW BOD Meeting
Wed. 7 August	5:00 pm Wednesday Night Racing (WNR)
Thur. 8 August	6:00 pm Social Sail
Wed. 14 August	WNR
Thur. 15 August	Social Sail
Fri. 16 August	Raft-Up
Wed. 21 August	WNR
Thur. 22 August	Social Sail
Sat. 24 August	8:00 am Cruiser Fleet Day
Tue. 27 August	Basic Sailing 3, Land Class 1
Wed. 28 August	WNR
Thur. 29 August	Social Sail





# 2019 Board of Directors

			
<p><b>Richard Kaiser</b> Commodore commodore@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Brian McPherson</b> Vice Commodore vice@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Wayne Williams</b> Secretary secretary@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Mike Hooban</b> Treasurer treasurer@scow.org</p>
			
<p><b>Vacant</b> Training Director training@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Chip Lubsen</b> Skipper Director skipper@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Marie Brennan</b> Social Director social@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Carlie Smith</b> River/Bay Director river@scow.org</p>
			
<p><b>Dana Howe</b> FS Maintenance Director scotmaint@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Vincent Penoso</b> Cruiser Maintenance Director cruisermaint@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Dave Beckett</b> Racing Director racing@scow.org</p>	<p><b>Barry Yatt</b> Membership Director membership@scow.org</p>

Please send your articles, for future ChaNNels newsletters, to: [editor@scow.org](mailto:editor@scow.org)

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